

INFORMATION SHEET

R5-2013-XXXX

OLSON MEAT COMPANY, INC.
MEAT PACKING FACILITY
GLENN COUNTY

Background

Olson Meat Company (Discharger), a California corporation, operates a slaughterhouse and swine processing facility located at 7305 Cutler Avenue, Orland, Glenn County. This site is located on the south side of Cutler Avenue (County Road 4), north of Capay Avenue (County Road 7), on the west side of 5th Avenue (County Road S), east of 6th Avenue (County Road 202), within the area of Capay, in the unincorporated area of Glenn County, California, Latitude 39° 47' 17" and Longitude -122° 6' 24", Foster Island 7.5-minute Quadrangle, T22N, R2W.

The Discharger commenced operation at the Facility in 2002 for pork production. On commencing operation, the Discharger implemented several mitigation measures including the use of wastewater for irrigation, and eleven (11) pond wastewater settling/treatment system. This Facility has not previously been regulated by the Central Valley Water Board. The purpose of this Order is to prescribe requirements that are protective of the waters of the State and reflect the Discharger's existing discharge and treatment system. About 10,630 gallons of process wastewater is generated by the facility during daily operations. The Discharger operates 258 days a year, for an annual discharge of approximately 2.8 million gallons.

The Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) dated 25 March 2010. The Central Valley Water Board reviewed that report and requested additional information. A revised report was received 2 August 2010.

Solids Disposal

Swine are kept in holding pens for only a few hours to provide a daily supply of animals for processing. The swine are not feed at the facility prior to processing to keep solid waste to a minimum. The small amount of manure that does collect in the pens is washed down and collected in the concrete pits behind the facility and then flows into the treatment pond system.

Groundwater Conditions

Regional groundwater in the area is encountered at about 50 feet below ground surface (bgs) and flows eastward towards the Sacramento River, according to information in Lines of Equal Elevation of Water in Wells in Unconfined Aquifer, published by Department of Water Resources, Fall 2011.

The groundwater-monitoring network at the Facility consists of three shallow monitoring wells. Central Valley Water Board staff was not consulted prior to the placement of the groundwater monitoring wells; typically one upgradient (background) well and at least two downgradient wells are required. There is some question as to whether the upgradient well is truly upgradient of the facility. An upgradient well is necessary to properly assess impacts from the discharge; therefore, a further study of the hydrogeology of the area and additional review of the current monitoring well system needs to be conducted. This may require an easement/property agreement with the adjacent landowner.

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Groundwater data from all three monitoring wells exceeded the Primary MCL for nitrate (10 mg/L). It is believed the groundwater quality has been impacted by general large scale agricultural practice in the area of the facility. It is unknown what portion, if any, of the elevated Nitrate in the groundwater can be attributed to the discharger. This issue will need to be addressed in an updated Antidegradation Analysis as required in the permit.

Compliance History

This Facility has not previously been regulated.

Treatment Technology and Control

The Discharger provides treatment and control of the discharge that incorporates:

- a. Processing of waste water through an eleven pond treatment system
- b. Blending of wastewater with irrigation water to meet the agronomic requirements for crop growth or other measures to ensure even distribution of wastewater over the area irrigated.

Title 27

The Discharge is conditionally exempt from the requirements of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations. Data obtained from on-site monitoring wells, as well as the agricultural wells, shows that beneficial uses have not been impacted due to facility operations, and there is no evidence that disposal practices have led to off-site discharges of waste. This Order requires the Discharger to continue to investigate whether the discharge complies with applicable water quality objectives.

Order Terms and Conditions**Discharge Prohibitions, Effluent Limitations, Discharge Specifications, and Provisions**

The Order prohibits discharge to surface waters and water drainage courses.

The Order sets a monthly average daily flow limit of 0.011 mgd.

The Order includes a provision requiring the Discharger to submit a Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan detailing all control measures taken to reduce the salinity of the discharge. The plan should also identify any additional methods that could be used to further reduce the salinity of the discharge to the maximum extent feasible, include an estimate on load reductions that may be attained through the methods identified, and provide a description of the tasks, cost, and time required to investigate and implement various elements in the Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan.

The Order prescribes that the application of waste constituents to the land application area shall be at reasonable agronomic rates to preclude creation of a nuisance or degradation of groundwater, considering the crop, soil, climate, and irrigation management system.

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The Order includes provisions to evaluate the soil in the land application area, and develop a comprehensive irrigation and nutrient management plan for the Reuse Area.

The Order also includes Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan, Soil Investigation and Crop Management Plan, Wastewater and Nutrient Management Plan, Solids Handling and Management Plan, Updated Antidegradation Analysis/Groundwater Investigation, and a Title 27 Exemption Analysis.

Monitoring Requirements

Water Code section 13267 authorizes the Central Valley Water Board to require monitoring and technical reports as necessary to investigate the impact of a waste discharge on waters of the State. The monitoring requirements are being imposed to ensure that the Discharger complied with the permit conditions. Water Code section 13268 authorizes the assessment of administrative civil liability for failing to submit monitoring reports required pursuant to Water Code section 13267.

The Order includes wastewater monitoring requirements, supply water monitoring, irrigation supply monitoring, land application area monitoring, and solids monitoring.